

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Public Health concluded hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, focusing on the importance of substance abuse prevention, after receiving testimony from Charles G. Curie, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Martha B. Knisley, District of Columbia Department of Mental Health, Washington, D.C.; First Lady of Ohio Hope Taft, Columbus; Lewis E. Gallant, National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc., Washington, D.C.; and Gloria Walker, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Arlington, Virginia.

VISA ISSUANCE PROCESS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship concluded hearings to examine how the Departments of State, Homeland Security, and Justice could more effectively

manage the visa process with clear and comprehensive policies and procedures and increased agency coordination and information sharing, after receiving testimony from Jess T. Ford, Director, International Affairs and Trade, General Accounting Office; Janice L. Jacobs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services; and Michael T. Dougherty, Director of Operations, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Jayson P. Ahern, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

VA HOSPITALS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the current status of VA hospitals, focusing on funding for VA medical care, enactment of Medicare reimbursements for non-service connected care, and the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services program (CARES), after receiving testimony from Ronald F. Conley, American Legion, Indianapolis, Indiana, who was accompanied by several of his associates.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 26 public bills, H.R. 2725–2750; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 243–244, and H. Res. 317–318, were introduced.

Pages H6867–69

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H6869

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 2473, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize the Medicare Program, amended (H. Rept. 108–178, Pt. 2);

H. Res. 317, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Second Congressional District of Hawaii (H. Rept. 108–207);

H. Res. 318, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee (H. Rept. 108–208);

H. Res. 319, providing for consideration of H.R. 2691, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 (H. Rept. 108–209);

H.R. 1720, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, establishing, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, amended (H. Rept. 108–210); and

H.R. 2297, to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify and improve certain benefits for veterans, amended (H. Rept. 108–211). **Page H6867**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Chocoma to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today.

Page H6709

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, Chaplain, United States Senate. **Page H6709**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:04 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H6709**

Dismissing Second Congressional District of Hawaii Election Contest: The House agreed to H. Res. 317, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Second Congressional District of Hawaii. **Pages H6710–11**

Dismissing Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee Election Contest: The House agreed to H. Res. 318, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee. **Page H6711**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Unveiling of the Statue of Sacagawea for Display in Statuary Hall: H. Con. Res. 236, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to commemorate the unveiling of the statue of Sacagawea provided by the State of North Dakota for display in Statuary Hall; **Pages H6711–13**

Smithsonian Facilities Authorization Act: H.R. 2195, to provide for additional space and resources for national collections held by the Smithsonian Institution; and **Pages H6713–15**

Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act: Debated on July 14, H.R. 2330, amended, to sanction the ruling Burmese military junta, to strengthen Burma's democratic forces and support and recognize the National League of Democracy as the legitimate representative of the Burmese people (agreed by yeand-nay vote of 418 yeas to 2 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 361. **Pages H6724–25**

Foreign Relations Authorization Act: The House completed general debate and considered amendments to H.R. 1950, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for the fiscal years 2004 and 2005 and to authorize appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for security assistance for fiscal years 2004 and 2005. Consideration will resume on Wednesday, July 16. **Pages H6725–H6824**

Smith of New Jersey amendment No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that sought to strike funding for the United Nations Population Fund (to by recorded vote of 216 ayes to 211 noes, Roll No. 362);

Pages H6766–72, H6789

Kolbe amendment No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that amends Hyde amendment No. 2 and clarifies the responsibility of the United States Agency for International Development and the State Department to the Millennium Challenge Corporation; **Pages H6788–89**

Hyde amendment No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 108–206, as amended, that establishes the Millennium Challenge Corporation to assist eligible countries achieve lasting economic growth and poverty reduction and expands the Peace Corps by doubling the number of volunteers to 14,000 by 2007;

Pages H6772–85, H6790

Menendez amendment No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that limit assistance to Tamil Nadu, India;

Pages H6795–96

Hyde en bloc amendment, as modified, consisting of amendments printed in H. Rept. 108–206 and No. 12, special rules for applying Buy American Act; No. 13, preference for United States contractors; No. 14, Sense of Congress concerning Visas for Russian Weapons Scientists; No. 15, Resources for Embassies and Consulates; No. 16, Designation of Foreign Terrorist Organizations; No. 18, as modified, International Child Abduction; No. 19, Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials;

Pages H6797–99

No. 20, Interference With Law Enforcement Protective Functions; No. 21, Sense of Congress Regarding Security for Taiwan; No. 22, Sense of Congress in Appreciation of the Armed Forces and Restoring Stability and Security in Iraq; No. 23, Treatment of Territories and Possessions as Part of the Geographic United States for Transfer Allowances; No. 24, Report on Observer Status for Taiwan at the Summit of the World Health Assembly; No. 25, as modified, Attacks on United States Citizens by Palestinian Terrorists; No. 26, Sense of Congress and Report Concerning Wastewater Treatment and the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States, and Mexico; No. 27, Transfer of Naval Vessels to Foreign Countries; No. 28, Security Capital Cost-Sharing Program; No. 29, Technical Corrections; No. 30, Democratic Policing Exemption; No. 31, Afghan Women's fund; **Pages H6799–H6803**

No. 34, Conditions on Non-Humanitarian Assistance to Vietnam; No. 35, Architectural Integrity of United States Embassies, Consulates and Other Diplomatic Buildings; No. 36, Sense of Congress Concerning the State Department's Authority on Inter-country Adoption; No. 38, as modified, Sense of Congress Regarding Migration Issues Between the United States and Mexico; No. 39, Irish Peace Cultural and Training Program Extension; No. 40, Transfer of Aircraft to Army Aviation Heritage Foundation; and No. 42, Condition of the Provision of International Military Education and Training funds to Indonesia. **Pages H6803–15**

Hostettler amendment No. 17 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that directs the Secretary of State to issue regulations with respect to the issuance by foreign missions in the United States of consular identification cards to foreign nationals residing in the United States (agreed to by recorded vote of 226 ayes to 198 noes, Roll No. 367);

Pages H6815–18, H6820–21

Rangel amendment No. 32 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that expands assistance to combat HIV/AIDS to certain countries of the Caribbean region;

Pages H6821–22

Sherman amendment No. 33 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that states United States policy concerning the democracy in Iran and the condemning the brutal treatment and torture of Iranian civilians expressing political dissent;

Pages H6822–23

McKeon amendment No. 37 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that expresses the Sense of Congress regarding the extradition of violent criminals from Mexico to the United States;

Page H6823

Waters amendment No. 41 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that requires a report on the progress made in modifying the Enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative.

Pages H6823–24

Rejected:

Kolbe amendment No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 108–206, as modified, to the Hyde amendment that sought to accelerate the eligibility for lower middle income countries in fiscal year 2005 through 2006 (rejected by recorded vote of 110 ayes to 313 noes, Roll No. 363);

Pages H6785–88, H6790

Paul amendment No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that sought to prohibit funding for any United States contribution to the United Nations or any affiliated agency of the United Nations (rejected by recorded vote of 74 ayes to 350 noes, Roll No. 364);

Pages H6790–92, H6818

King amendment No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that sought to limit United States share of United Nations assessments to that of the largest assessed contribution of any other permanent member country of the United States Security Council (rejected by recorded vote of 187 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 365);

Pages H6792–94, H6819

Tauscher amendment No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 that sought to allow exporters of commercial communications satellites to transfer marketing information to a member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or to Australia, Japan, or New Zealand (rejected by recorded vote of 207 ayes to 219 noes, Roll No. 366);

Pages H6794–95, H6819–20

Withdrawn:

Kennedy of Minnesota amendment No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to clarify that public and private sector expenditures should be included when considering eligibility;

Page H6785

Weldon of Pennsylvania amendment No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 108–206 was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to prohibit assistance to the Republic of Moldova;

Pages H6796–97

The House agreed to H. Res. 316, the rule that is providing for consideration of the bill by yeas-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 201 nays, Roll No. 360.

Pages H6715–24

Motion to Instruct Conferees—All American Tax Relief Act: Representative Michaud announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308, Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act to include in the conference report (1) the provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides immediate payments to taxpayers receiving an additional credit by reason of the bill in the same manner as other taxpayers were entitled to immediate payments under the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003; (2) the provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides families of military personnel serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other combat zones a child credit based on the earnings of the individuals serving in the combat zone; (3) all of the other provisions of the Senate amendment and shall not report back a conference report that includes additional tax benefits not offset by other provisions; (4) other tax benefits for military personnel and the families of the astronauts who died in the Columbia disaster. And, House conferees shall, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this motion, meet in open session with the Senate conferees and the House conferees shall file a conference report consistent with the preceding provisions of this instruction, not later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion.

Pages H6824–25

Aviation Investment and Revitalization Vision Act: The House disagreed with the Senate amendment to H.R. 2115, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs for the Federal Aviation Administration, and agreed to a conference.

Pages H6825–26

Appointed as conferees: From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Young of Alaska and Representatives Mica, Ehlers, Hayes, Rehberg, Isakson, Oberstar, DeFazio, Boswell, and Holden. From the Committee on Energy and Commerce for consideration of section 521 of the House bill and section 508 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Tauscher and Barton of Texas and Dingell. From the Committee on Government Reform for consideration of sections 404 and 438 of the House bill and section 108 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Tom Davis of Virginia and Representatives Shays

and Waxman. From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of sections 106, 301, 405, 505, and 507 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Sensenbrenner and Representatives Coble and Conyers. **Page H6826**

From the Committee on Resources, for consideration of sections 204 and 409 of the House bill and section 201 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Pombo and Representatives Gibbons and Rahall. Provided that Representative Renzi is appointed in lieu of Chairman Pombo for consideration of section 409 of the House bill, and modifications committed to conference. From the Committee on Science, for consideration of section 102 of the House bill and sections 102, 104, 621, 622, 641, 642, 661, 662, 663, 667, and 669 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Boehlert and Representatives Rohrabacher and Costello. From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of title VI of the House bill and title VII of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Thomas and Representatives Camp and Rangel. **Page H6826**

Agreed to the DeFazio motion to instruct conferees to insist upon a total level of funding of not less than \$59 billion for programs authorized pursuant to sections 101 through 103 of the bill including not less than (1) 14.8 billion for Federal Aviation Administration operations; (2) \$12.294 billion for air navigation facilities and equipment; and (3) \$31.276 billion for airport planning and development and noise compatibility planning and programs. **Pages H6825–26**

Project BioShield Act—Order of Business: Agreed that it be in order at any time without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House, H.R. 2122, to enhance research, development, procurement, and use of biomedical countermeasures to respond to public health threats affecting national security; that the bill be considered as read; that in lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Government Reform and the Select Committee on Homeland Security now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute placed at the desk be considered as adopted; that all points of order against the bill, as amended, be waived; that the bill be debatable for 90 minutes, equally divided and controlled; that the previous question be considered as ordered on the bill as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. **Pages H6834–41**

Motion to Instruct Conferees—All American Tax Relief Act: The House completed debate on the

DeLauro motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308, Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act to include in the conference report (1) The provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides immediate payments to taxpayers receiving an additional credit by reason of the bill in the same manner as other taxpayers were entitled to immediate payments under the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003; (2) the provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides families of military personnel serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other combat zones a child credit based on the earnings of the individuals serving in the combat zone; (3) all of the other provisions of the Senate amendment and shall not report back a conference report that includes additional tax benefits not offset by other provisions; (4) other tax benefits for military personnel and the families of the astronauts who died in the Columbia disaster. And, House conferees shall, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this motion, meet in open session with the Senate conferees and the House conferees shall file a conference report consistent with the preceding provisions of this instruction, not later than Friday, July 18, 2003. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. **Pages H6826–34**

Presidential Messages: Read the following messages from the President:

United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement: Message wherein he transmitted legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement—referred to the Committees on Ways and Means and the Judiciary and ordered printed (H. Doc. 108–100); and

Page H6834

United States-Chile Trade Agreement: Message wherein he transmitted legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement—referred to the Committees on Ways and Means and the Judiciary and ordered printed (H. Doc. 108–101).

Pages H6841–42

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H6709.

Referral: S. 1233 was referred to the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary. S. 1289 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. **Page H6865**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H6869–70.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H6724, H6724–25, H6789, H6790, H6818, H6819,

H6819–20, and H6820–21. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 11:13 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the following appropriations for fiscal year 2004: Energy and Water Development; and District of Columbia.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative held a hearing on Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, GAO; and Alan M. Hantman, Architect of the Capitol.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies approved for full Committee action the VA, HUD and Independent Agencies appropriations for fiscal year 2004.

AMERICAN—EXPANDING ACCESS TO COLLEGE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness held a hearing on “Expanding Access to College in America: How the Higher Education Act Can Put College Within Reach.” Testimony was heard from Teri Flack, Deputy Commissioner, Higher Education Coordinating Board, State of Texas; and public witnesses.

ADMINISTRATION’S PROPOSAL TO REPLACE—30-YEAR TREASURY RATE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations and the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures of the Committee on Ways and Means held a joint hearing on Examining Pension Security and Defined Benefit Plans: the Administration’s Proposal to Replace the 30-year Treasury Rate. Testimony was heard from Ann Combs, Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security, Department of Labor; Peter Fisher, Under Secretary, Domestic Finance, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

MONETARY POLICY AND THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing on monetary policy and the state of the economy. Testi-

mony was heard from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

FEDERAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS INTEGRATION AND CONSOLIDATION

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held an oversight hearing on “Federal Information Systems Integration and Consolidation: Maximizing Technology Investment Across Agency Boundaries.” Testimony was heard from Mark A. Forman, Administrator, E-Government and Information Technology, OMB; and public witnesses.

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT OR LACI AND CONNER’S LAW

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution approved for full Committee action H.R. 1997, Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2003 or Laci and Conner’s Law.

EXTEND SPECIAL IMMIGRANT RELIGIOUS WORKER PROGRAM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims approved for full Committee action H.R. 2151, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend for an additional 5 years the special immigrant religious worker program.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported the following bills: H. R. 1006, amended, Captive Wildlife Safety Act; H.R. 1409, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Land Exchange Act; and S. 111, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the national significance of the Miami Circle site in the State of Florida as well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of Biscayne National Park.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1289, National Parks Institute Act; H.R. 532, Rancho Corral de Tierra Golden Gate National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act; and H.R. 408, to provide for expansion of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Testimony was heard from Representatives Camp and Lantos; Dan Smith, Special Assistant to the Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.